

REMARKS

Claims 22-24 and 29-32 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 22-24 and 30-32 are amended. No new matter is added. Claim 20 is canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in that claim. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116(b)(1) because the amendments place the application in condition for allowance by canceling rejected subject matter or otherwise make claims dependent on an allowable base claim. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

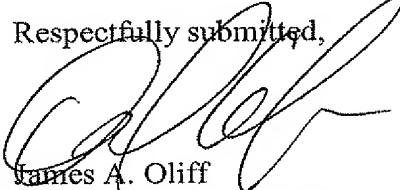
Applicants thank the Examiner for stating that claim 29 is allowed. The amendments are made in view of the allowance of claim 29.

The Office Action, in paragraph 2, rejects claims 20, 22-24 and 30-32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by any one of U.S. Patent No. 4,762,581 to Stancliffe, U.S. Patent No. 2,607,104 to Foster, JP-A-2004-052188 (hereinafter "JP '188") or GB 851 192 (hereinafter "GB '192"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The cancellation of claim 20, and the amendment of the other claims to depend from an allowed claim, renders the rejection moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 22-24 and 30-32, in addition to the allowance of claim 29, are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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